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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/46/738)]

46/143. Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/191 of 21 December 1990, on developing human resources for development, and earlier resolutions on the same subject,

Reaffirming its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the annex to which contains the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,

Reaffirming also that people are central to all development activities and that human resources development is an essential means of achieving economic, social and development goals,

Reaffirming further that human resources development should contribute to total human development, which enlarges the choices available to people in developing their lives and in fulfilling their aspirations,

Recognizing that the promotion of more equitable economic growth and more participatory development will result in qualitatively higher levels of human resources development,

Emphasizing the need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies for human development,

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Noting that, while stabilization and structural adjustment programmes are intended to promote economic growth and development, elements of such programmes can have a possible adverse impact on human resources development,

Stressing that Governments of developing countries have the primary responsibility to define and implement appropriate policies for human resources development,

Stressing also that a favourable international economic environment is crucial to enhancing human development in developing countries,

Stressing further the importance of international cooperation in supporting national efforts in human resources development in developing countries, and emphasizing that both North-South and South-South cooperation, including economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, have vital roles to play in this regard,

Emphasizing the need for organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 1/

2. Emphasizes that in the development of human resources an overall, well-conceived and integrated approach should be adopted, taking into account such vital areas as population, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, communications, education and training, as well as the need to create more opportunities for employment, in an environment which guarantees opportunities for political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacities to meet the challenge of development;

3. Emphasizes also the vital importance of national capacity-building for human resources development in developing countries, and encourages organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to intensify activities in support of national efforts in that regard;

4. Emphasizes further the vital importance of appropriate national policies and the implementation thereof to promote human resources development through the optimal use of resources, taking due account of the importance of primary education and primary health care programmes;

5. Stresses the importance of international support for national efforts and regional programmes for human resources development in developing countries and the need to increase the flow of resources to those countries for such activities through, inter alia, the improvement of the international economic environment;

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6. Calls upon the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to coordinate their activities in support of national and regional programmes, priorities and activities in the area of human resources development through, inter alia, dialogue on policy, resource allocation and strengthening the database for planning and monitoring, as well as through appropriate, measurable, qualitative and quantitative goals for human resources development;

7. Decides to keep under constant review the progress made in human resources development, in particular during its review of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, and, in that regard, requests the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of the Strategy an analysis of human resources development;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including specific proposals for action to enhance inter-agency coordination of the United Nations system on issues relating to human resources development, and to monitor the activities of the United Nations system in support of human resources development objectives;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant bodies, to include in his report recommendations to help mitigate the possible adverse effects of stabilization and structural adjustment programmes on human resources development, with a view to making national policies more supportive for human resources development;

10. Decides to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Human resources development".

76th plenary meeting
17 December 1991